

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) An end of a side-looking endoscope, comprising:

an end body which is provided at an end of an endoscope insertion portion, the end body having a stand accommodation groove and an optical system accommodation room, the optical system accommodation room being formed on a side of the stand accommodation groove and accommodating an image-taking optical system and an illumination optical system;

a treatment device stand which laterally guides an end of a treatment device from the end body, the treatment device stand being swingably supported within the stand accommodation groove;

a cap which is detachably affixed on the end body to cover the end body;

a protective covering which covers the optical system accommodation room, the protective covering having an engagement part for engaging with the end body, the protective covering being joined to the end body through the engagement part; and

a sealing agent through which the protective covering is screw-connected to the end body on a joint surface of the end

body.

2. (original) The end of the side-looking endoscope as defined in claim 1, wherein the protective covering is joined to the end body by engaging motion and sliding motion.

3-5. (canceled)